

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the final Office Action dated March 9, 2007. Claims 12-13, 24-25, 29-34 and 38-39 are all the claims presently pending in the application. With this Response, claims 29-32 and 38-39 have been amended, and claims 40-43 have been added. No new matter has been introduced; thus, favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-13, 24-25, 29-33 and 38-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hug et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,806,078, hereafter "Hug"). The Applicant traverses these rejections.

The Applicant has amended independent claims 38 and 39 to further distinguish over Hug. As amended, the claims point out that the information processing apparatus and method of the present invention include a storage means for repeatedly storing application data in a plurality of different stored states *in a desktop environment*. Each of the different stored states includes at least one of a day and time at which the application data is stored in *the desktop environment*; and the each application data also corresponds to an application program. A control means locates, based on received time information, *a desktop environment* containing application data. And from *the desktop environment located*, the state of an application program can be reproduced *by selecting the application data in the desktop environment*. (see Applicant's Application, page 30-32, lines 6-12 and Fig. 8).

Conversely, Hug discloses a version management system for storing and retrieving changes to spreadsheets or word processing documents (i.e., application programs). In this system, an original version of each document and all alternative versions are stored in a delta format (i.e., storing only the difference from a prior version) within a common difference data file (see, Hug, Abstract). Each version of a document, including the delta version, can be checked-out of the library directory 38 by a user. Fig. 9 of Hug illustrates in more detail the check-out process of a document. In Fig. 9, a Version Open Dialogue box allows a user to perform a check-out procedure of a document from the library directory 38. The Version Open Dialogue box requires a user to provide the project, document and the version number/name for proper retrieval of the document (see Hug, col. 9, lines 35-45).

Thus, at best, Hug merely discloses the use of a dialogue box to retrieve an application program. Hug fails to disclose locating, based on received time information, *a stored desktop environment* containing application data, let alone reproducing the state of an application program *by selecting the application data in the desktop environment located*. Therefore, independent claims 38 and 39 (as amended) are clearly distinguishable over Hug. Likewise, dependent claims 12-13, 24-25, 29-34 and 40-43 are also believed to be distinguishable over based on their dependency from independent claims 38 and 39.

In light of the above, the Applicant submits that all the claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any additional fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

BY



Thomas C. Basso
Reg. No. 46,541
Cust. No. 29175

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